Name of CPSE	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06	
	NP (Rs. crore)	NP/NW (%age)	NP (Rs. crore)	NP/NW (%age)	NP (Rs. crore)	NP/NW (%age)
1. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited	658.15	12.47	953.4	15.82	1679.2	23.00
2. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	1694.6	28.97	965.8	15.12	291.65	3.19
3. GAIL (India) Limited	1869.3	25.11	1953.9	22.65	2310.1	23.16
4. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	1903.9	24.59	1277.3	15.13	405.63	4.64
5. Indian Oil Corporation Limited	7004.8	30.49	4891.4	18.85	4915.1	16.81
6. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited	1150.5	11.14	938.98	8.58	580.29	5.22
7. NTPC Limited	5260.8	14.58	5807	13.90	5820.2	12.82
8. Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited	8664.4	21.66	12983	28.03	14431	26.93
9. Steel Authority of India Limited	2512.1	53.92	6817	68.08	4013	32.40

Depletion of ground water

*24. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some private agencies/plants are exploiting underground water that causes the depletion of ground water level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to impose fine or sanctions on the cold drink plants that are engaged in the depletion of ground water; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) to (d) The Government is aware of decline in ground water in various parts of the country. The decline in ground water levels in an area is cumulative effect of ground water withdrawal for all purposes including domestic, industrial as well as agricultural sectors. Central Ground Water Board monitors ground water levels on a regional basis and carries out assessment studies at watershed/block levels. However, a special study

was carried out by CGWB in Plachimada village, Chittoor block, Palakkad district in Kerala and Kaladera village, Govindgarh block, Jaipur district in Rajasthan, where soft drink manufacturing factories are located. The main finding of the study is that agricultural pumpage is contributing the maximum for decline of ground water.

In Plachimada village of Kerala, ground water withdrawal for irrigation was found to be 92.6% of the total ground water withdrawal, whereas that for industry was 3.4%.

In Kaladera village of Rajasthan, the ground water withdrawal for irrigation was 81.28% and that for industry was 12.57% of the total ground water withdrawal.

Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) was constituted on 14th January, 1997 under Environment (Protection) Act of 1986 to regulate and control ground water management and development. The CGWA is regulating withdrawal of ground water by new industries/projects in over-exploited, critical and semi-critical areas. 'Water' being a State subject, action to impose fine or sanctions on withdrawal of ground water is taken by the respective States.

Educational loans for students

†*25. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have formulated a plan to provide Bank loans to students for studying abroad;

(b) if so, the rate of interest to be charged on this loan;

(c) the number of students who applied for this loan during the last two years;

(d) the number of applications approved along with the amount allocated; and

(e) the main reasons for rejecting applications?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The revised model Education Loan Scheme, 2004, circulated by Indian Banks'

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.